



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

RANUNCULUS JOVIS **JOVE'S BUTTERCUP**

Jove's Buttercup is a glabrous perennial with 1-several stems that are 4-10 cm tall and arising from a cluster of fleshy, club shaped roots. The basal leaves are often lacking, but, when present, are 2-3 cm long and have a petiole and a blade that is deeply divided into 3-5 narrow lobes. The stem leaves are clustered together and are longer than the basal leaves. The yellow flowers are solitary on the ends of stalks that are 2-6 cm long. The 5 petals are narrowly lance-shaped and 7-12 mm long. The glabrous sepals fall off shortly after opening. The fruit is an ovoid cluster of 50-200 achenes; these egg shaped achenes are approximately 1 mm long, slightly compressed, and finely hairy, with a straight, slender beak that is approximately 0.5 mm long. Flowering and fruiting April-June.

This species can be distinguished from other *RANUNCULUS* by the clustered, fleshy roots and by the deeply 3-5 parted leaves.